

Message Text

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NODIS/CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR US JO XF

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR RIFAI AND KING: SECRETARY'S TALKS WITH
GROMYKO

REF: SECTO 06055

1. FOLLOWING INTERVIEW JULY 13 WITH KING CONDUCTED BY
WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST AND JOE KINGSBURY-SMITH WHICH
I WAS ASKED TO ATTEND, I HAD PRIVATE OPPORTUNITY TO
CONVEY TO KING MESSAGE CONTAINED REFTEL. HE ASKED ME
TO EXPRESS HIS THANKS FOR THE MESSAGE AND CONVEYED HIS
HOPE THAT MOMENTUM COULD BE KEPT UP AND THAT MEETINGS
WOULD PROVE FRUITFUL.

2. KING ADDED NOTHING NEW TO CORPUS HIS VARIOUS POLICY
POSITIONS IN HEARST/KINGSBURY-SMITH INTERVIEW. GROUND
COVERED INCLUDED HIS VIEWS ON CURRENT MIDDLE EAST
DEVELOPMENTS, PROSPECTS FOR PEACE, POSITION OF PLO,
AND RELATIONS WITH THE ARABS.

3. SINCE I HAD NOT SEEN HIM IN SOME TIME I HAD
ALSO THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY TO HIM AS I HAD DONE
EARLIER WITH RIFAI, SECRETARY'S MESSAGE ON DEVELOPMENTS
IN SAUDI ARABIA AND THE GULF (STATE 151703). KING
SAID HE APPRECIATED ALSO HAVING YOUR VIEWS. HE MADE IT
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CLEAR HE REMAINS VERY WORRIED ABOUT IRAQI MACHINATIONS.

IRAQIS, HE SAID AS MUCH AS ADMITTED TO HIM WHEN THEY WEREHERE, THAT THEY ARE PUSHING FOR A GENERAL SECURITY AGREEMENT IN THE GULF. HE DEEPLY FEARS THE IRAQIS WILL USE THIS AGREEMENT AS I HAVE REPORTED BEFORE, AS A DEVICE FOR EXPANDING THEIR INFLUENCE AND CONTROL IN THE AREA.

4. FOLLOWING ON FROM THIS POINT , KING MENTIONED THAT HE WILL BE GOING TO OMAN ON THE 15/16TH OF THIS MONTH. HE WILL SPEND A DAY OR SO WITH THE SULTAN IN MUSCAT OR PERHAPS IN SALLALAH, AFTER WHICH HE WILL GO OUT INTO THE FIELD, AS HE SAID, TO GET AS MUCH OF THE VIEW ON THE GROUND AS THE CURRENT MONSOON SEASON WILL ALLOW.

5. HE TOLDME THAT A DAY OR SO AFTER HE COMES BACK FROM OMAN HE WILL FLY TO TEHRAN TO SEE THE SHAH FOR A FEW DAYS. THIS GROWS OUT OF HIS CONCERN OVER WHAT THE SHAH HAS IN MIND FOR THE FUTURE IN THE GULF HE SAID HE HOPED THAT HE AND RIFAI HAD DONE ENOUGH TO PUT SMALLER GULF STATES ON THEIR GUARD ABOUT IRAQI OBJECTIVES DURING HIS MOST RECENT VISIT TO THE AREA. HE STILL WANTS TO TALK THINGS OVER WITH THE SHAH AND SEE WHAT THE LATTER MAY HAVE IN MIND FOR THE FUTURE. WE ALSO HERE DO NOT DISMISS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE KING WILL RAISE WITH THE SHAH FUTURE AREAS OF IRANIAN ASSISTANCE, ALTHOUGH THE SHAH HAS BEEN EXTREMELY HELPFUL AND GENEROUS TO JORDAN OVER THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS.

6. KING THEN TOLD ME THAT HE HAD JUST HAD A MESSAGE FROM THE JORDANIAN DELEGATION TO THE ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE IN SAUDI ARABIA GIST OF THE JORDAN REPORT WAS THAT EGYPT WAS HOLDING OUT STRONGLY AGAINST HEAVY PRESSURS FROM SYRIA AND OTHERS FOR A RESOLUTION LOOKING TOWARD EARLY EXPLUSION OF ISRAEL FROM UN. KING SAID THAT HIS DELEGATION TOLD HIM THERE WAS SOME HOPE FOR AN EVENTUAL COMPROMOSE BETWEEN SYRIA AND EGYPT WHICH WOULD SPEAK OF SUSPENSTION FROM THE ACTIVITIES

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OF THE UN AFTER A YEAR'S TIME IF ISRAEL FAILED TO COMPLY WITH APPROPRIATE UN RESOLUTIONS--UNSC 242 AND 338. KING ALSO NOTED THAT CONCENSUS WAS BUILDING UP FOR A RESOLUTION BY ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS WHICH WOULD WORK TWOARD MORE BROAD RECOGNITION OF PALESTINIANS AND A MODIFICATION OF 242 TO INCLUDE LANGUAGE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT PALESTINIAN RIGHTS. I TOLD KING WE APPRECIATED JORDANIAN HELP IN TRYING

TO STAVE OFF SUCH A DEVELOPMENT. HE WAS A LITTLE BIT DODGEY ABOUT WHAT JORDAN COULD OR WOULD DO IN THIS AREA, AND I PRESUME HE IS FEELING THE HEAT FROM HIS SYRIAN BROTHERS ON THIS POINT AND MAY BE INCLINED NOT TO MAKE TOO MUCH OF A FIGHT I VIEW OF THE NEED TO HAVE A BONE TO THROW TO THE SYRIANS AND ALSO POSSIBLY IN RECOGNITION OF THE STRENGTH OF THE ARAB CONSENSUS WHICH THE SYRIANS MAY WELL HAVE BUILT AROUND THEIR POSITION. I SUSPECT WITHOUT THE KING SAYING IT, THAT THE BEST THE JORDANIANS CAN BE EXPECTED TO DO FOR US IS TO HELP PLUG FOR A CONSENSUS ALONG THE LINES OF THE "COMPROMISE" NOTED ABOVE.

7. KING ASKED ME IF WE HAD HAD ANY NEWS OR RESPONSE YET ON HIS INTEREST IN OBTAINING MILITARY EQUIPMENT THAT HAD BEEN RECOVERED FROM VIETNAM (AMMAN 4279) I SAID THAT WE HAD NOT RECEIVED A RESPONSE YET BUT WOULD QUERY YOU AGAIN ON HIS APPROACH AND YOUR REACTION TO IT.

8. THE KING ALSO TOLD ME AND ASKED THAT I HOLD THIS IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, THAT BOEING HAD LET IT BE KNOWN TO HIM THAT AN UNKNOWN BENEFactor WHO WISHED TO SURPRISE THE KING HAD INDICATED HE WOULD ORDER TWO BOEING 747'S FOR THE JORDANIAN AIRLINE. BOEING WAS ASKING SPECIFICATIONS FROM JORDAN IN ORDER TO DEVELOP A PRICE FOR THE BENEFactor. KING SAYS THAT THE ORDER WILL AMOUNT TO CLOSE TO \$90 MILLION AND ASSUMES THEREFORE THAT THE BENEFactor IS PROBABLY SHEIKH ZAYED OF THE UAE.

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